

wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation." iii. 8, 9. The fact in Nehemiah's case was the desertion of their posts by the Levites; the principal cause was the non-payment of the tithes, and the consequent failure of their means of support; the remedy, applied with a rigorous and faithful hand, was the regular payment of the tithes, as a duty owed to God.

Let us look at the facts in our own case. At the outset we may admit that during the past 25 years there has been a very large addition made to those engaged in the work of the Ministry in this Diocese, so that their numbers have, I believe, very nearly doubled in that period. At the same time we know that there has also been a very large increase in the population of the country, and there are constant complaints of want of Clergymen in all directions. Now should it be looked upon as a disparagement to either the past or the present generation of Missionaries, when we say that the religious requirements of the day demand a larger proportion of Clergy than was needed thirty years ago. With this in our recollection we can understand how it is that with some 90 Clergy the outcry for more labourers in the vineyard is as frequent as when there were but fifty. But this mere want of men is not the only fact with which we have to deal: if it were, our task would be comparatively simple. A more alarming circumstance is the fact that if all those who have been ordained in the Diocese remained with us, we should probably have many more than we require. Of course on the present occasion I cannot enter into all the details required to substantiate this assertion. I will content myself with adducing such portions as I am most familiar with in consequence of their connection with that department which has now been in my charge for nearly 15 years, especially as they may help to account partially for a matter of great interest to all the friends of our College, viz.: the paucity of Students when compared with the educational advantages offered. The facts are these: in that